

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SY-04 SCCT-01 NIC-01 IO-10

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FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 551

AMEMBASSY BONN NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMCONSUL DUESSELDORF

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMCONSUL STUTTGART

USMISSION NATO

CINCEUR

CINCUSAREUR

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

CINCUSAFE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 378

CINCOUR FOR POLAD AND OPS

CINCUSAFE FOR POLAD AND OPS

CINCUSAREUR FOR POLAD OPS, AEAGC-COC & AEAAG-AP

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, WG

SUBJECT: BERLIN KIDNAPPING: MEETING WITH GOVERNING MAYOR

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1. MINISTER SAW GOVERNING MAYOR AND HERZ 4:15 PM.
FEBRUARY 28 TO REVIEW SITUATION AND MAKE CLEAR ALLIED
POSITION THAT IF IT IS DECIDED YIELD TO TERRORIST DEMANDS,
PROCUREMENT OF AIRCRAFT TO FLY RELEASED PRISONERS OUT
OF BERLIN MUST BE MATTER FOR GERMANS TO DEAL WITH.

SCHUETZ SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THIS QUITE WELL, WAS MAKING
EVERY EFFORT LINE UP AIRCRAFT, AND HOPED EFFORT WOULD BE
SUCCESSFUL. HE SAID THAT IF NOT, HOWEVER, GERMANS WOULD
HAVE NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO TURN TO ALLIES FOR HELP.
MINISTER SAID THAT WHILE HE HAD UTMOST SYMPATHY FOR
THOSE CAUGHT UP IN THIS TRAGIC SITUATION, HE MUST MAKE
CLEAR THAT USG POLICY IS SUCH THAT WE COULD NEITHER
PROVIDE PLANE NOR PUT PRESSURE ON U.S. CARRIERS TO DO
SO FOR PURPOSE MEETING TERRORIST DEMANDS. SCHUETZ SAID
NOTHING, BUT DID NOT SEEM SURPRISED.

2. ON QUESTION TRANSPORTING THREE RELEASED PRISONERS
FROM FRG TO BERLIN, SCHUETZ SAID ONE OF THEM DOES NOT
WANT TO LEAVE, AND THAT HE THOUGHT IN ANY EVENT GERMAN
SIDE COULD TAKE CARE OF THIS WITHOUT INVOLVING ALLIES.

3. AS TO NEXT STEPS, SCHUETZ SAID THAT DEPENDING ON
DECISIONS TAKEN AT BONN MEETING THEN GOING ON AND BEING
ATTENDED BY NEUBAUER (SCHUETZ'S DEPUTY), BERLIN CRISIS
GROUP SCHEDULED MEET AT 7:00 P M FEBRUARY 28 WOULD
PROBABLY DECIDE TAKE FIRST STEPS IN MEETING TERRORIST
DEMANDS, I.E., ANNOUNCE THAT FIRST RELEASE WILL BE
MADE. HOPE IS THAT DIRECT CONTACT MAY THEN BE ESTABLISHED
WITH THOSE HOLDING LORENZ AND BEST POSSIBLE ONWARD
SCENARIO WORKED OUT. GEORGE

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